



DRAFT SPECIAL EVENTS ORDINANCE

WILLIAM MANNO, AUSTIN CENTER FOR EVENTS
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION I AUGUST 1, 2017



COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 20120524-089

- May 24, 2012: Austin City Council approves Resolution.
- Issues raised in the Resolution:
 - No single, publicized point of contact, nor a single responsible department or office.
 - Multiple requirements found in multiple sections of City Code for events.
 - No scalability in permitting based on size of events.



COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 20120524-089

- Resolution directed the City Manager to, in part:
 - Create a special events team – Austin Center for Events (ACE).
 - Identify any budgetary, ordinance, or staffing changes that would be necessary to implement the creation of a special events team and provide the necessary amendments.



IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION

- Created a comprehensive online application.
- Created a system to record and track event applications.
- Created a consolidated website:
<http://www.austintexas.gov/citystage>.
- Created an ACE Special Events Guidebook.



IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION

- Drafted an ordinance that:
 - Creates a new City Code chapter for special events.
 - Codifies the Austin Center for Events.
 - Focuses Chapter 14-8 (*Temporary Closure for Right of Way Events*) on roadway closures and neighborhood block parties.

DRAFT ORDINANCE : BOARDS & COMMISSIONS



- Fall 2013: City staff presented the draft ordinance to following Boards and Commissions:
 - August 13, 2013: Urban Transportation Commission
 - August 14, 2013: Zero Waste Advisory Commission
 - August 21, 2013: Downtown Commission
 - September 24, 2013: Parks and Recreation Board
 - October 7, 2013: Public Safety Commission
 - October 7, 2013: Austin Music Commission



DRAFT ORDINANCE: COUNCIL ACTIONS

- October 24, 2013: Council approved the draft ordinance on first reading.
- November 21, 2013: Council considered a resolution to create a Council subcommittee to discuss possible changes to the draft ordinance but later withdrew the resolution.



KEY COMPONENTS: SPECIAL EVENT

- A special event is an event that:
 - Has 100 or more attendees per day at a city facility;
 - Exceptions: Convention Center, Long Center, City Hall, or Palmer Events Center.
 - Impacts a city right-of-way; or
 - Is temporary, 100 or more attendees per day, and
 - Requires a temporary use permit or a temporary change of use permit, and
 - Includes one of the following:
temporary structures, sound equipment, or food or alcohol.

NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTIES

- Removed from Special Event Ordinance After 1st Reading and retained in 14-8
 - One block right of way with single family dwellings only
 - Cannot:
 - have automated traffic control device at either end of the block
 - have any bus or rail stops operated by Capital Metro
 - Close an intersection with another street



KEY COMPONENTS: TIERS

- Creates a tiered approach to processing applications for special events.
- Events with a smaller impact:
 - Tier 1: No alcohol and small footprint.
 - Tier 2: Max attendees 2,500 or closes two blocks of city right-of-way.
- Events with a larger impact:
 - Tier 3: Default tier.
 - Tier 4: Involves two or more city facilities plus city right-of-way, or requires at least \$100,000 in city services, staff time, and equipment.



EXAMPLES OF TIERS

Event	Potential Tier
Austin City Limits Music Festival	4
Austin Trail of Lights	4
SXSW Conference & Festivals	4
Austin's New Year	3
Pecan Street Festival	3
Republic of Texas Biker Rally	3
Austin Film Festival	2
Fado's St. Patrick's Day Festival	2
Paramount Theatre Red Carpet Event	1
Honk!TX	1
Parking Space Use for Food Trucks / Display Vehicles	1



KEY COMPONENTS: DEADLINES

- Tier 1:
 - Submit event application at least 3 business days prior to the first day of the event.
 - Approve at least within 1 business day before the start of the special event.

- Tier 2
 - Submit at least 30 calendar days prior to the event.
 - Approve at least within 1 business day before event.

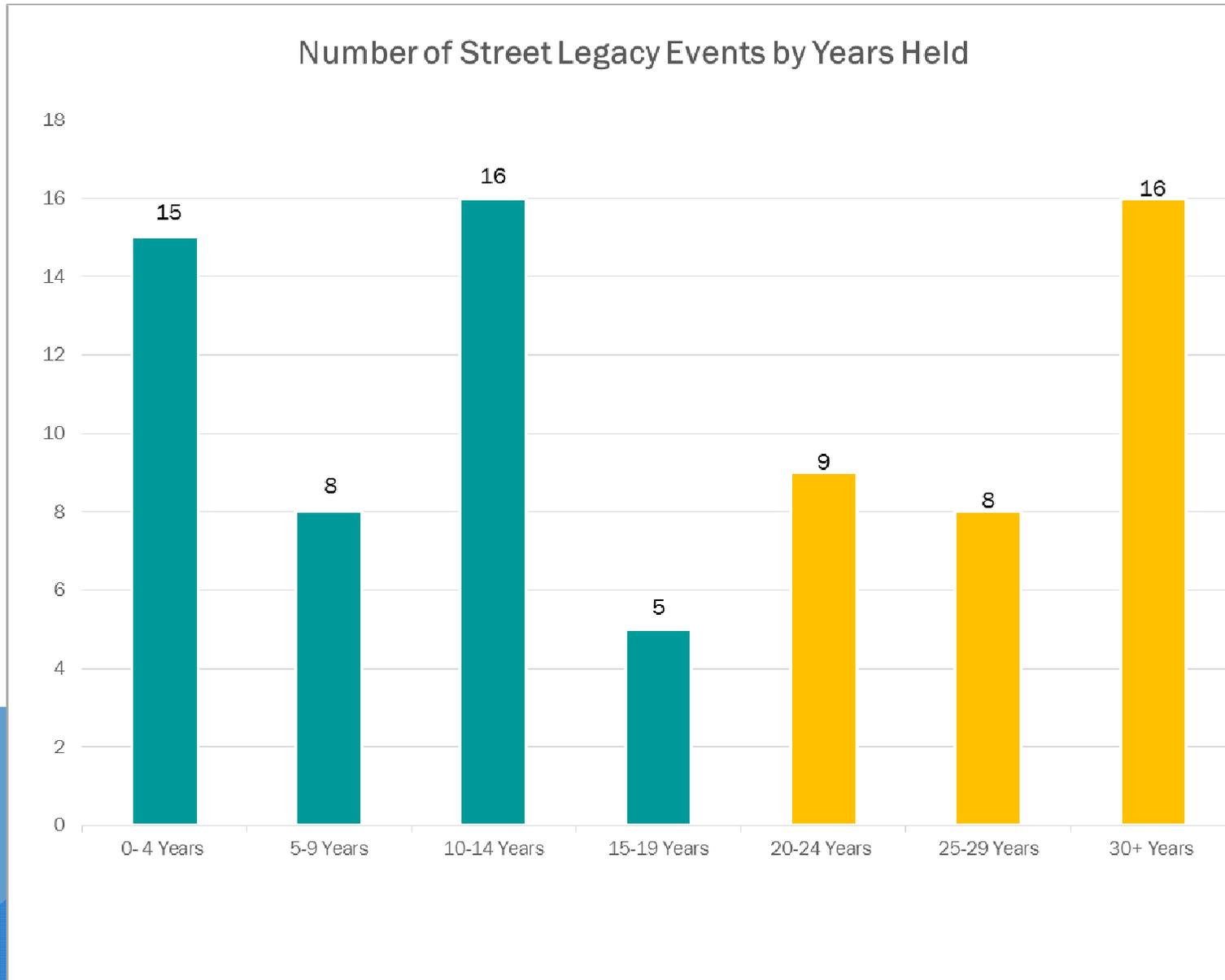


KEY COMPONENTS: DEADLINES

- Tier 3
 - Submit at least 120 calendar days prior to the event.
 - Preliminary recommendation due within 10 business days of submittal.
- Tier 4
 - Submit at least 180 calendar days before event.
 - Preliminary recommendation due within 10 business days of submittal.



KEY COMPONENTS: STREET LEGACY EVENTS





KEY COMPONENTS: SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT

- Special Event Permit satisfies requirements for sound and temporary use permits.
- Does NOT satisfy requirements for other permits (food handlers, tent, pyrotechnics, etc.).





KEY COMPONENTS: SPECIAL EVENT IMPACT AREA

- Allows Austin Center for Events to limit the number of permits within the Impact Area based on capacity, public health, safety, and welfare.





KEY COMPONENTS: APPEALS PROCESS

- Appeals Team
 - Inter-departmental team comprised of directors of city departments involved in Austin Center for Events.
 - For Tier 3 & 4 Events:
 - Appeal must be submitted within 10 business days of denial.
 - Appeal Team must act on appeal within 10 business days.





KEY COMPONENTS: EVENT REQUIREMENTS

- Waste management plan (All Tiers)
- Waste reduction and diversion plan (Tiers 2 – 4)
- Additional requirements (Tier 4)
 - Emission reduction plan, and
 - Bicycle parking and encouraging alternative transportation plans.
- ADA compliance plan (when event interferes with accessibility on city streets and at city facilities).



KEY COMPONENTS: ENFORCEMENT

- Criminal offense to violate the chapter or a requirement of the permit.
- Permit revocation (includes appeals process).



RULES TO SUPPORT ORDINANCE

- Establishment of rules governed by City Code 1-2
- Two of the main areas to be addressed in rules include:
 - Notification process
 - Review process for music whether street events, park events, or events on other property



STAFF REQUEST

- Approve the draft Special Events Ordinance on 2nd and 3rd readings.
- Feedback and further direction.

QUESTIONS?